



NEWS RELEASE

**NELSON P. COHEN
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
DISTRICT OF ALASKA**

Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse • 222 W. 7th Avenue • Room 253 • Anchorage, AK 99513-7567 • (907) 271-5071

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, October 31, 2007**

#07-158

**ANCHORAGE MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT
FOR COOKING AND DISTRIBUTING CRACK COCAINE**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced that on October 30, 2007, Derek Lamont Elliott, a resident of Anchorage, Alaska, pleaded guilty in federal court to a charge of manufacturing and/or distributing a controlled substance.

Elliott, age 44, pleaded guilty to manufacturing and/or distributing cocaine base, or “crack,” before United States District Court Judge Timothy M. Burgess. Bjorn Esserre Elliott is also named as a defendant in the indictment.

In connection with the guilty plea, Special Assistant United States Attorney Erin White advised the court that on July 20, 2006, Derek Elliott “cooked” crack cocaine and then provided it to co-defendant Bjorn Elliott. Bjorn Elliott then immediately sold the crack to a government informant.

Judge Burgess announced that sentencing will take place during the week of January 21, 2008, with the specific date and time to be determined. The law provides for a maximum total sentence of five to 40 years in prison, a fine of \$2 million, or both. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed is based upon the seriousness of the offense and the criminal history, if any, of the defendant.

The court ordered Elliott to remain in custody pending sentencing.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation Safe Streets Task Force, comprised of Anchorage police officers and FBI agents, conducted the investigation leading to the conviction in this case. SAUSA White is one of two prosecutors in the U.S. Attorney’s Office who are funded by the Municipality of Anchorage for the purpose of prosecuting gang-related and violent crime cases.

###